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TAGS: [PREL](#) [EAID](#) [ARF](#) [ASEAN](#) [KNNP](#) [PARM](#)
SUBJECT: HANOI: ARF REGIONAL DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PROPOSAL IN
SINGAPORE'S COURT

REF: STATE 74383

(SBU) On July 16, Poloff met Ton Thi Ngoc of the Vietnamese Ministry of Foreign Affairs' (MFA) Asean Department to deliver Reftel points on updating the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) on disaster preparedness.

Ngoc said she and her MFA colleagues are studying the USG's proposals "carefully," but that whether Asean members consider these proposals as a group will depend on the ASEAN Chair, Singapore. Hanoi will wait for Singapore to broach the ideas in the proposal, not ask that the proposal be considered, she added. Ngoc warned that "time constraints" may in the end prevent due consideration of U.S. ideas we would like to see included in the ARF Chairman's statement.

MICHALAK